

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 remain present in this application.

Claims 1-18 have been amended. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

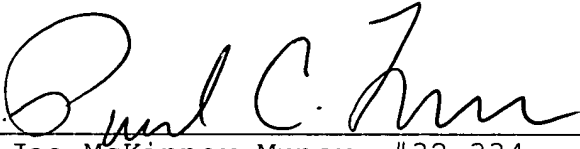
In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By



Joe McKinney Muncy, #32,334

for

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

#43,368

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